



HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

Community Collaborations to Provide Housing Assistance and Related Services for Low-Income Persons who are living with HIV/AIDS and their families
<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/aidshousing>

The Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program provides housing assistance and related supportive services for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families. Since the programs inception in 1992, HOPWA has helped thousands of Americans with HIV/AIDS avoid homelessness by addressing their housing needs in coordination with access to medical and other care.

Housing as a base from which to receive care.

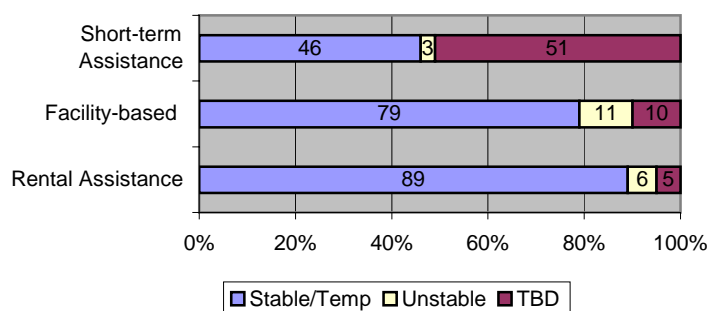
National Commission on AIDS, 1992

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

The HOPWA program helps beneficiaries improve their health by providing stable housing as a basis for increased participation in an effective comprehensive care. Program achievements are measured through annual grantee performance reports by program recipients.

The HUD evaluation conducted on HOPWA program activities found that the program is well established with a clear program purposes that operate under strategic planning efforts and management efforts. The review noted that the program is achieving identifiable program results in using funds to support housing for very low-income beneficiaries. In 2006, the Department issued a new performance reporting format that enables grantees to demonstrate that the housing provided to beneficiaries results in a more stable housing arrangements, reduces the household's risks of homelessness, and improves access to health care and other support for persons living with HIV/AIDS. The initial data collected under this new client outcome focus shows that more than 80 percent of assisted households are able to maintain stable housing arrangements and reduce risks of homelessness along with participating in care.

CLIENT OUTCOMES BY TYPE OF HOUSING ASSISTANCE¹



¹ HUD Data 10/2006. Preliminary data received from 40 grantees reporting under the new performance measurement format on client outcomes. Additional reports will reduce the 'to be determined', as assessments are made and reported by grantees completing their operating year.

CONSOLIDATED PLANNING

Recipient communities make use of HUD and other resources through the area's Consolidated Plan. This involves HOPWA formula grants, other HUD programs and other community resources, such as State, local and private funds. HOPWA grantees work in partnerships with area nonprofit organizations, including faith-based, and grassroots organizations, all to provide support to clients.

The Con Plan process involves public consultations in assessing area needs, creation of a multiple-year strategy and development of annual action plans for use of Federal funds in continuum with other community resources.

FORMULA PROGRAMS

Ninety percent of program funds are distributed under a formula that is based on AIDS surveillance information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), including cumulative AIDS cases and area incidence. In FY 2006, a total of \$256.2 million was allocated by formula to 122 grantees, to the qualifying cities and one county for 83 eligible metropolitan statistical areas (EMSAs) and to 39 eligible states for areas outside of EMSAs. Eligible formula areas have at least 1,500 cumulative cases of AIDS, as of March 31, a population of at least 500,000 and have a HUD-approved Consolidated Plan. One-quarter of the formula is awarded for metropolitan areas that have a higher than average per capita incidence of AIDS. A description of the areas and allocation data for each HOPWA formula program can be found at:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/aidshousing/programs/formula>.

HOPWA Funding 2004-2006 (In millions \$)

Fiscal Year	Formula Allocations	Competitive Grants	Technical Assistance	Total
2004	263.1	29.2	2.5	294.7
2005	251.3	27.9	2.4	281.7
2006	256.2	28.5	1.5	286.1

COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS

Ten percent of HOPWA funds are made available each year through a national competition and to renew expiring competitive grants which operate permanent supportive housing efforts. In 2006, HUD selected 26 projects that operate in 15 states, in awarding \$27.5 million in grant funds. These funds will be used to assist clients over a three-year operating period. HUD provided \$16.5 million to continue funding to 16 permanent supportive housing renewal projects and \$11 million to support

10 new projects that will demonstrate model approaches to providing permanent or transitional housing support. In selecting projects, HUD gave priority for the renewal of existing contracts that provide permanent supportive housing.

Descriptions of the HOPWA competitive program and the competitive awards are available on the Internet at: www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/aidshousing/programs/competitive/index.cfm.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

In addition the FY 2006 appropriation makes available \$1.485 million for training, oversight, and technical assistance activities.

HOPWA technical assistance provides support to local projects and promotes the sound management of these HOPWA programs. This support may involve helping communities develop or enhance their comprehensive strategies for HIV/AIDS housing; improve project operations in providing information and in delivery of services that connect clients with housing assistance. The efforts also support the use of HUD's grant management tools to help collect and evaluate performance and support adjustment to these efforts, where needed.

A description of the HOPWA Technical Assistance Program and its providers can be accessed online:

www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/aidshousing/programs/technical/index.cfm.

PROGRAM USES FOR HOUSING

HOPWA funds have provided housing assistance to thousands of low-income persons who are living with HIV/AIDS and their families. In the most recent program year, grantees reported that 67,012 households were assisted. The program has also helped many communities establish strategic AIDS housing plans, better coordinate local and private efforts, fill gaps in local systems of care, and create new housing resources. HOPWA funds may be used for tenant based rental assistance, short-term rent, mortgage, and utility payments; or for costs to develop and operate single room occupancy dwellings or community residences.

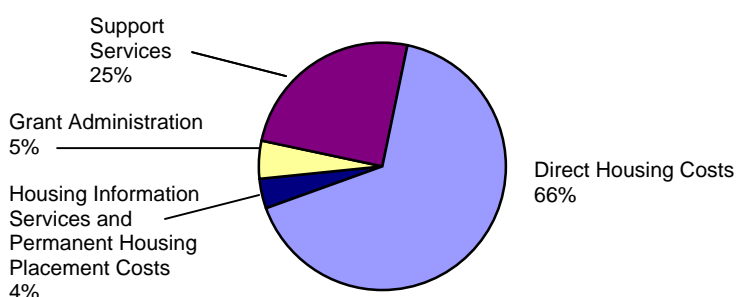
An essential component in providing housing assistance for this targeted special needs population is the coordination and delivery of supportive services. These may involve support for residents with their daily living activities; case management; substance abuse treatment and counseling; and other services, to help beneficiaries maintain appropriate housing and access other needed support. HOPWA clients also use a range of health and supportive services funded by HHS through the Ryan White Care Act and other public or private support. In providing supportive housing through HOPWA resources, client's improve their ability to participate in health care and access other supportive services.

Grantee and project sponsor administrative costs are also available and limited by statute as up to 3 percent for grantee administration and up to 7 percent for project/sponsor administration.

The range of housing supported with HOPWA funds includes the use of rental assistance payments and support for maintaining current residences through the use of short-term rent, mortgage and utility payments. Funds also are used for the operating costs for supportive housing facilities, such as community residences which support beneficiaries with on-site activities and needed services.

Grantee's also report that about 91 percent of HOPWA beneficiaries have family incomes of less than \$1,000 per month and all families are low-income (less than 80 percent of area median income).

ALLOCATION OF HOPWA FUNDING²



²Source: HUD Data provided to GAO, published in "Changes Needed to Improve the Distribution of Ryan White CARE Act and Housing Funds" (GAO Report, 2/06)

AUTHORIZATION AND REGULATIONS

Authorization: The program is authorized by the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12901) as amended. Funds were appropriated in FY 1992 and for subsequent years. The Department's appropriation is authorized under annual appropriation acts.

Regulations: The program is governed by the HOPWA Final Rule, 24 CFR Part 574, as amended, and the Consolidated Submissions for Community Planning and Development Programs, Final Rule, 24 CFR Part 91.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Community Planning and Development, Office of HIV/AIDS Housing, 451 7th St, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20410; Email HOPWA@HUD.GOV. Information on the HOPWA program is available through the HOPWA homepage at: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/aidshousing/>.

Information on for the local HOPWA programs and data on performance is available on this website.